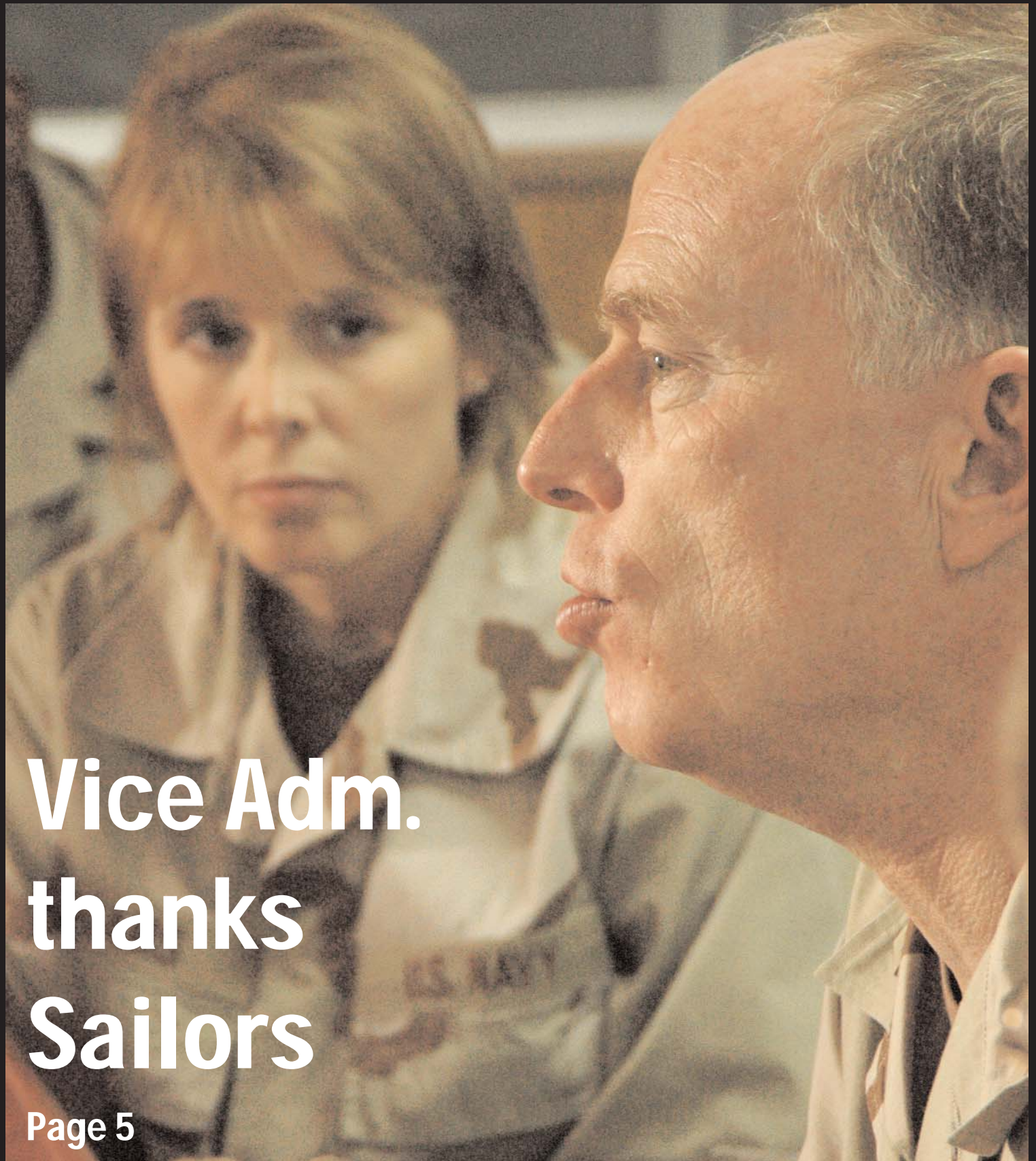


# DESERT VOICE

November 30, 2005

Serving the U.S. and Coalition Forces in Kuwait



**Vice Adm.  
thanks  
Sailors**

**Page 5**



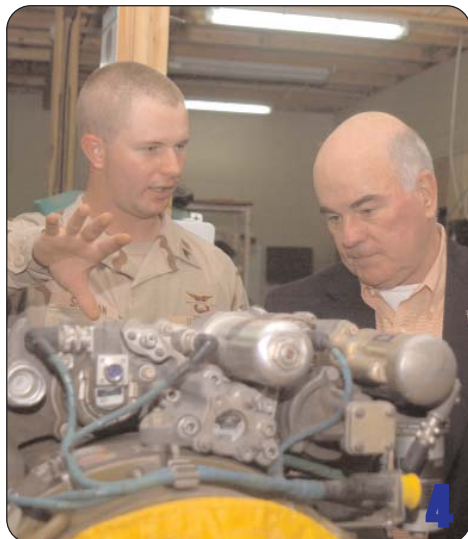
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# DESERT VOICE

Volume 27, Issue 19

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Spc. Marcos Alices-Kinch

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### On the cover

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Boatswains Mate Seaman Brenda

Adams listens to Vice Adm. John G.

Cotton during a sit-down with Sailors at the KNB dining facility Wednesday.

# Bye BDUs, DCUs ... Hello ACUs

**Command Sgt. Maj.**

**Franklin G. Ashe**

**CFLCC Command Sergeant Major**

As the Army passes the halfway point in its transformation, evidence of change can be seen from garrison to the battlefield.

One such example of this change is the merging of the battle dress uniform and the desert combat uniform into the streamlined Army combat uniform.

I've recently been issued ACUs, and I think it's the best uniform I've worn so far. You can tell it's a uniform that's been designed for combat, not just to look good around the office, even though it does.

The prototype was designed by troops in the field and tested for more than a year in combat environments. It's a design that has been made for Soldiers, by Soldiers.

Some of the units coming into Kuwait have already been issued ACUs. In the units that have the uniforms, the overwhelming majority of the troops I've spoken with have had nothing but good things to say about it. Soon there will be more Soldiers in ACUs than DCUs, both in theater and in the states.

In the 30 years I've been in the military, there has been a steady improvement on tactical uniforms. This new uniform is awesome. There have been a lot of different tactical uniform variations from time to time; this is the best one I've seen for sure. It presents several advantages earlier uniforms did not.

The ACU is the most practical uniform I've been issued. Hook and loop fasteners have replaced needle and thread for attaching patches and insignias. Not having to pay to get these items sewn on can potentially save Soldiers hundreds of dollars per year. The new pocket design makes the uniform more functional, removing two pockets

from the blouse and slanting the two remaining pockets on the chest for easier access.

Additionally, the highly polished shine of BDU boots has been replaced on this uniform with the easily maintained, desert-ready temperate and hot weather boots.

The digitized pattern is one of the best camouflage patterns I've seen in a while. The color is ideal for woodland, desert and urban combat environments.

The ACU is very comfortable and it fits well if the uniform fitting has been properly done. There are dozens of size variations for the ACUs to ensure a good fit. A lot of the Soldiers who went out and bought ACUs before they were fitted didn't get them fitted correctly but that's an example of a growing pain we face whenever we get new equipment.

Probably the most significant change with this uniform is the fact the Army is issuing it instead of making Soldiers go out and buy it. ACUs can also be directly exchanged if they become unserviceable after six months in a combat environment.

Initially there were complaints about the weakness of the seams in the ACUs. The stitching has since been reinforced in the uniforms that are currently being issued.

Soldiers have also complained about the fact the rank is centered on the front of the blouse as opposed to being on the collar, and some officers dislike the fact the branch insignia isn't displayed, but overall, the response to the uniform has been very positive.

Because the ACU is a relatively new uniform, Soldiers may have a hard time finding guidance on the proper wear of it. There's currently a Department of the Army-level message regarding the wear and appearance of the Army combat uniform. Coalition Forces Land

Component Command policies have also been rewritten to reflect the addition of the ACU. These policies will be available in the near future.

One of the biggest problems I've seen already is Soldiers sticking unauthorized items to the Velcro on their uniform sleeves. That's a no-go.

In Kuwait, personnel assigned to CFLCC will wear the non-subdued U.S. flag on the right sleeve of the ACU.

The subdued flag will be used only in tactical environments by tactical units at the discretion of the commander.

The only authorized headgears in the Third Army area of forward operations are the patrol cap, the boonie cap and Advanced Combat Helmet or Kevlar helmet. In Atlanta, the only authorized headgear is the beret. The patrol cap will not be worn in Atlanta unless you are on a detail or out in the field.

Also, in Third Army, the only authorized GoreTex is the digital pattern or the desert camouflage pattern.

The woodland green pattern GoreTex is not authorized. Other items for wear are the same as current policy.

The brown T-shirt can still be worn with the ACU.

Between January and February, most, if not all, of Third Army will have been issued the ACU.

If you're not sure of a policy, ask your chain of command. If you look different than everyone around you, you're probably wrong.

To prolong the serviceability and appearance of the ACU, Soldiers should pay attention to its care instructions. The uniform is low-maintenance and very easy to care for. Cold water and a mild detergent should be used for cleaning the uniform. Once you've washed it, just put it in the dryer, take it out, shake it and it's ready for a hanger.



**Command Sgt. Maj. Franklin G. Ashe**

The ACU is a wrinkle-resistant uniform and pressing it should be avoided. If you're going to have it dry cleaned, make sure you turn it in to a place that understands how to care for the uniform. The uniform should never be starched. The industrial presses used by some dry cleaners may melt the Velcro and washing the uniform in hot water could cause it to shrink.

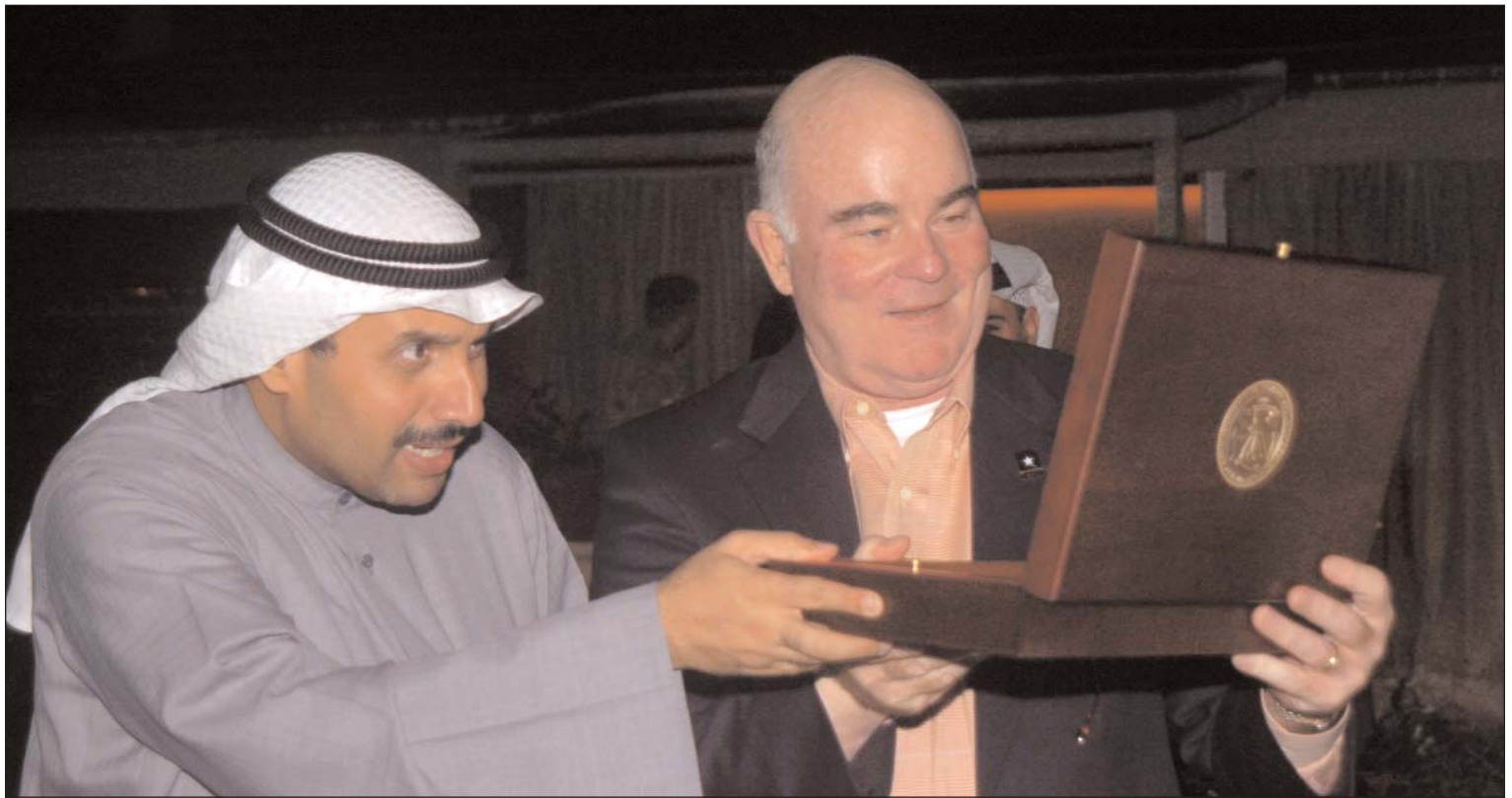
Almost any time you give Soldiers better equipment their morale improves. It shows troops the Army cares about them enough to try to improve the quality of the gear they use. This is just another example of improving the foxhole by enhancing combat readiness and effectiveness.

Soldiers need to familiarize themselves with regulations and policies and know how to wear the uniform.

Commanders dictate how we wear uniforms, but ultimately it's up to us as individual Soldiers and leaders to ensure regulations and policies are met, and uniforms are worn correctly.

Soldiers should wear the Army combat uniform like any other uniform we've worn in the past; with pride and as regulation and policies dictate.  
- PATTON'S OWN.





Photos by Spc. Michael R. Noggle

The Honorable Dr. Francis J. Harvey, secretary of the Army, presents a plaque to Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah, undersecretary to the Crown Prince's Diwan, at Al-Sabah's hotel in Kuwait Nov. 22. Al-Sabah said he was honored to have Harvey as a guest.

*Show me what you got*

# SecArmy tours Arifjan compound

**Spc. Michael R. Noggle**  
CFLCC PAO/11th PAD

The Secretary of the Army Dr. Francis J. Harvey visited with Soldiers and toured operation points at Camp Arifjan Nov. 22.

During his stay, Harvey was escorted by Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb, Third U.S. Army/Army Central Command/Coalition Forces Land Component Command commander.

Harvey mingled with troops in a dinner before the Thanksgiving holiday, letting them know of the progress being made in Iraq and the support they are receiving.

"Be proud of what you do," he said. "The American people know what you have to do, you know what you have to do and that is staying the course. Our young men and women are answering their call to duty."

He later added, "Because of you and your fellow Soldiers, 50 million formerly oppressed people are now free and are no longer subjected to immoral and ruthless governments."

In a question-and-answer session with Harvey, some of the Soldiers were curious of the progress being made in Iraq and the

Army's transformation.

"Here in Iraq, there is no question that progress has been and is being made – politically, economically and militarily," Harvey said.

The secretary of the Army stated that since his last visit in March the status of Iraqi military forces have quickly developed. The troop size has doubled and more than a third of the battalions are operating independently.

"As we fight the Global War on Terrorism, we're also building our Army for the future as well," he said. "Brigades are being built for the National Guard and active components."

"Stay the course," he said. "We're here and we're going to get the job done."

After meeting with the Soldiers, Harvey toured the Army Material Command's aviation and tactical vehicle repair sites.

The 1106th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot and Army Field Support Battalion, briefed the Secretary of the Army on their operations throughout the year and supporting the warfighter.

"We couldn't complete this mission without you," Harvey said. "You've played a huge role in the up-armor effort at our depots



**Maj. Xaviera Williams, Army Field Support Battalion, shows Harvey one of the communication tools inside of a humvee.** and arsenals... You are a vital part of our team."

In his remarks to the servicemembers serving overseas, Harvey expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Army and United States and thanked everyone for their service.

"Let there be no doubt, the insurgents will be defeated. They are facing the best-trained, the best-equipped and the best-led Soldiers in the world today," he said.

"Thanks for answering the call to duty and defending the peace and freedom of our country and preserving our democracy. Because of you and your fellow Soldiers, our country is a safer place... Let's stay the course and make the world a much safer place now and for future generations."

# Vice Adm. Cotton visits Sailors, tours Navy units

**Spc. Robert Adams**

Assistant Editor

Sailors got the opportunity to ask Navy Vice Adm. John G. Cotton, chief of Navy Reserve, questions during his visit and tour of Navy units at the Kuwait Naval Base, Camp Arifjan and Camp Moreell Nov. 23 and 24.

Cotton wanted to spend Thanksgiving with Sailors and thank them for their service, answer their questions and inform them of the importance of the mission here and around the world.

There is a large Navy presence here working directly for the Army and this is a first for some units like customs with the Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Force, which is made up of mobilized Reservists from all over the United States.

During the all-hands call at KNB, Cotton talked about pay raises, new medical benefits and systems for Reservists, the importance of recruitment and the future of the Navy and the military.

He also spoke to Reservists about balancing civilian employment and service to the nation. He told them they will be training and recruiting the next generation of Sailors.

"We can train anybody for these missions... Nobody is too old," said Cotton, a 36-year Navy veteran. "There will be a lot of opportunity for all of you."

Cotton then spent time talking one-on-one with Sailors during lunch to answer more questions and learn about their families, civilian occupations and future goals.

"He let us know we do a good job and that the Reserve is a big part of the Navy," said Electrical Technician 2nd Class Harold Krohne, Inshore Boat Unit-16 coxswain and patrol leader.

"It shows that he cares about the Reserve and that he has the ability to have our issues heard out."

Cotton also got the chance to view the operations of the Naval Coastal Warfare IBU-16 and Mobile Inshore Undersiege Warfare Unit-101 and ride out on a 34-foot sea ark gun ship.

"We showed him some tactical formations and high-speed runs," said Lt. Cmdr. William McDaniel, MIUWU-101 operations officer. "This is a great opportunity for us... It is great to show him all our capabilities."

After the ride along, Cotton got the opportunity to pin Boatswain Mate Seaman Michael Tinkler, IBU-16, as a new patrol leader.

"To receive this from a vice admiral will



PH2 Greg Devereaux

**Vice Adm. John G. Cotton, chief of Navy Reserve, explains to Store Keeper 3rd Class Corneilus Hall, Expeditionary Medical Facility - Pendleton, and the audience how all the service tags in the military have the word 'us' in it.**

be a lifetime experience that I won't forget," Tinkler said.

Cotton spent his second day eating Thanksgiving lunch with Navy Seabees and customs inspectors at Moreell, touring the Navy-run detention facility and hospital at Arifjan and finished with Thanksgiving dinner with Sailors before departing.

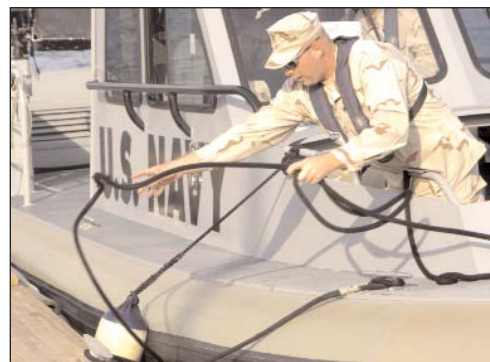
## Naval Coastal Warfare: keeping ports safe, secure

A large portion of U.S. and Coalition Forces supplies and equipment arrive here by sea. The Naval Coastal Warfare is in place to make sure that the waters around the ships arrive and leave the Seaport of Debarkation and Kuwaiti Naval Base safely.

The NCW is made up of four units: the squadron command, the MIUWU-102, IBU-16 and the MIUWU-101, a converted inshore boat unit, and together they are in charge of landward and seaward port security border defense and provide force protection and escort missions for high-value assets coming into and out of port.

The NCW also works closely with Kuwaiti, Iraqi and Coalition Forces. They coordinate training exercises to teach them how to execute harbor defense, help with Coalition Forces operations in the Northern Arabian Gulf, and provide liaison officers to area nations.

"The NCW has gotten the opportunity to work side-by-side with Kuwaitis and Iraqis which hadn't been done in the past and has



Spc. Robert Adams

**Electrical Technician 2nd Class Harold Krohne, coxswain/patrol leader, ties the Navy patrol boat-31 to the dock after showing Vice Adm. Cotton the boat's capabilities.**

led to better working relationships with these countries," said Navy Commander Arnie Tyler, NCW operations officer.

"We have Kuwaiti officers who ride with us locally... The host-nation and U.S. security forces are working hand-in-hand to provide port security for high-valued assets,"

The NCW also works closely with the Navy Expeditionary Logistical Support Force who load and offload cargo and with Navy customs that inspects the cargo.

Though there haven't been any altercations at the ports, the units are constantly performing drills, gun shoots and conducting qualifications and weapons training.

"The training department has run five times more drills than any other squadron in theater," Tyler said. "I've been pleased to work with this squadron."





**Staff Sgt. Raymond Hairston** prays before digging into his Thanksgiving day meal.



(Above) Staff Sgt. Daniel McNeil, receives a plate of food from Sgt. Maj. Robert Money at Camp Arifjan's Zone 2 dining facility. Hundreds of servicemembers gathered at DFACs all over Kuwait on Thanksgiving to get a traditional holiday meal. (Left) A chef from the dining facility slices some roast beef for the Thanksgiving meal.

# Thanksgiving voyage

## **Spc Michael R. Noggle**

**CFLCC PAO/11th PAD**

As part of America's heritage, Thanksgiving is celebrated the fourth Thursday of every November. Families and friends come together to give thanks for their blessings and celebrate with the traditional turkey and pumpkin pie.

Thanksgiving marked a day of gratitude from the pilgrims thanking the Native Americans for their help as the foreigners settled at Plymouth Rock.

As history shows, the pilgrims fled their homes in England and Holland on the Mayflower to escape religious persecution and start a new life.

On their arrival in December 1620, a devastating winter storm covered the land and forced the people into starvation. Of the original 102 personnel to make the trip only 56 survived the winter.

As the snow melted and the temperature

rose, the pilgrims began their harvest with the help of a nearby Native American tribe.

The Native Americans showed the colonists the ways of the land and learned from one another's culture.

As a present for their gratitude, the pilgrims held a feast that included 91 American Indians.

Though it was considered a traditional harvest festival, the feast lasted for three days with an overwhelming amount of ducks, geese and fried corn bread.

However, the Thanksgiving feast was not repeated until 1623 when a severe drought filled the lands.

The pilgrims gathered in a prayer service, hoping rain would soon fall.

Again, their prayers were answered and the leaders of the town, announced another day of Thanksgiving with their native friends.

It wasn't until June 29, 1676 that the

governing council proclaimed that as a day of thanksgiving.

In October of 1777, all 13 colonies joined in a thanksgiving celebration for the first time to commemorate their patriotic victory over the British. But it was only a one-time affair.

Throughout the years, a day of thanksgiving wasn't recognized again until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as a national day of thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving was recognized by every president after Lincoln and, in 1941, it was finally sanctioned as a legal holiday as the fourth Thursday in November.

Today, friends and families in the United States and servicemembers stationed around the world still uphold the tradition brought forth by the earlier settlers in America. Everyone comes together and gives thanks for all with which they have been blessed.



*Photos by Spc. Michael R. Noggle*

**Col. Michael Brown** pours gravy on some mashed potatoes. Brown and other leaders from the Coalition Forces Land Component Command served food to the troops on Thanksgiving at Camp Arifjan.





Photos by Spc. Marcos Alices-Kinch

(Above) Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue meets with CFLCC Soldiers on his Thanksgiving Day visit with troops stationed in Kuwait.

(Left) Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm helps serve Thanksgiving dinner at Camp Arifjan's Zone 6 DFAC on her visit to the troops stationed in Kuwait

# Governors visit troops for Thanksgiving

## *A piece of home for holidays in Kuwait for Soldiers*

**Spc. Marcos Alices-Kinch**

CFLCC PAO

**Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw**

CFLCC PAO/11th PAD

Four governors visited troops for Thanksgiving at Camp Arifjan Nov. 24.

Governors Haley Barbour of Mississippi, Jennifer Granholm of Michigan, Sonny Perdue of Georgia and Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas visited troops with Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, National Guard Bureau chief.

They served Thanksgiving meals to servicemembers and ate lunch and dinner with military members from their respective states. They also visited servicemembers around the installation.

"It is a great opportunity to be here for the Soldiers on the behalf of the family members back home on this Thanksgiving Day," Sebelius said.

The governors took a tour around the Coalition Forces Land Component Command

Headquarters meeting Soldiers.

Barbour visited with Soldiers from the 184th Container Management Element and the 1107th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot. He talked to them about the situation at home and how their families and homes were since the hurricanes.

After meeting with Soldiers, Barbour witnessed a reenlistment ceremony of four Mississippi National Guard Soldiers by Blum.

Following the ceremony, Barbour expressed his thanks to the Soldiers.

"On behalf of both my wife and me we're proud and grateful for your service," he said. "There is no better place to spend Thanksgiving and no better people."

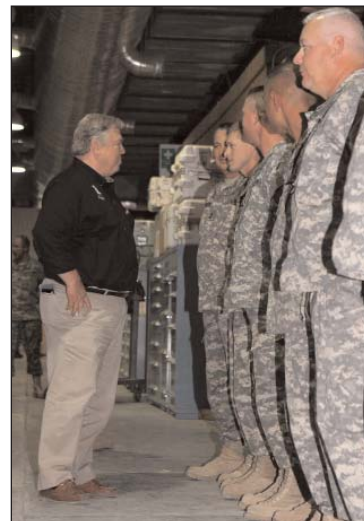
Following their tours, the governors were given a brief about the military members in Kuwait and how they support the warfighter throughout the theater by Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb, Third U.S.

Army/Army Central Command/CFLCC commanding general.

After serving dinner and spending more time with troops the governors attended the New Orleans All-Star Brass band concert at a hotel in Kuwait City. The concert was held to express the American people's appreciation of the Kuwaiti government and individuals who offered assistance and relief for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The New Orleans All-Star Brass band performed an array of songs capturing the flavor of the New Orleans lifestyle.

Before the band took the stage, Barbour took the opportunity to thank the Kuwaiti people for their contribution during the United State's time of need. The crowd cheered and applauded as the governor thanked the Kuwaiti people in Arabic.

He also presented a gift to the Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr. Mohammed Saban Al-Salem Al-Sabah.



Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

**Governor Haley Barbour of Mississippi visits Mississippi National Guard troops deployed here during his visit Thursday.**

"It is an opportunity for us to send a message to the troops that we support them and thank the Soldiers for their sacrifice and service," Granholm said.

The governors continued to show their support for the military as they visited troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.



*There's a new medical team in town*

# Pendleton takes reins of EMF Kuwait

**Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw**  
CFLCC PAO/11th PAD

Expeditionary Medical Facility – Kuwait changed hands of the responsibility of medical facilities Nov. 12.

EMF – Camp Pendleton Detachment took over the hospital mission from EMF – Dallas, as Navy Capt. Jack E. Riggs relinquished command to Navy Capt. Cathy Wilson.

EMF – Dallas arrived in Kuwait in February with personnel from 48 states to perform the medical mission at Arifjan's level-three hospital and nine level-one and two troop medical clinics throughout Kuwait.

"EMF – Dallas, under the helm of Capt. Jack Riggs exceeded every expectation," said Col. Thomas Bailey, 62nd Medical Brigade commander.

"The unit quickly assimilated and built upon the foundation provided by EMF – Portsmouth and established the standard for quality health care in Kuwait and Qatar," he said.

It provided outpatient services to more than 100,000 military members and performed more than 1,750 surgeries.

The hospital also expanded its surgical capabilities by implementing a laparoscopic surgery program, allowing for additional therapeutic and diagnostic procedures.

EMF – Dallas treated troops as well as U.S. Embassy personnel, Coalition Forces and third-country nationals.

More than 750 servicemembers were medically evacuated from Iraq to Kuwait to receive specialty care not available in Iraq. Of these military members, 83 percent were returned to duty after treatment.

The hospital also provided in-patient care for more than 1,000 servicemembers with an average length of stay of 2 ½ days.

The team provided services in cardiology, critical care, dental, dietary needs, general surgery, health and wellness, internal medicine, mental health, nephrology, obstetrics and gynecology, optometry, oral-maxillo-facial surgery, orthopedics, physical therapy, pulmonology and vascular surgery.

The unit also coordinated for patients to receive specialty care at several Kuwaiti hospitals.

"The credentials of EMF – Dallas' staff are impeccable," Bailey said. "Their accom-



*Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw*

**Sailors salute during the national anthem at the EMF ceremony to change responsibility Nov. 12.**

plishments in providing world-class medical care to Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen are unmatched."

Rear Adm. Elizabeth M. Morris, human capital for Navy Medicine, senior health care executive associate chief, told EMF – Dallas she was impressed by their teamwork and how they took the time to mentor the incoming EMF personnel.

She went on to praise the incoming staff.

"I am confident in their abilities to assume this operational medical mission in the Kuwait theater," she said.

"We are ready for this," Wilson said.

"We are ready to sustain the fighting force."

## NG retention bonuses available to Soldiers

**Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw**  
CFLCC PAO/11th PAD

National Guard Soldiers serving in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom may be misinformed about their re-enlistment and extension bonuses.

Soldiers may be under the impression that the Department of Defense discontinued all Army National Guard bonuses as the result of an issue with Active Guard/Reserve and military technician bonuses, but this is not the case.

Traditional National Guard Soldiers' re-enlistment and extension bonuses remain in effect without any changes. The National Guard has been granted the authority to offer bonuses to

AGR Soldiers and are developing implementation guidance to issue these. Deployed military technicians may also receive bonuses, but are developing guidance for future contracts.

To receive re-enlistment and extension bonuses Soldiers must meet the following criteria.

- ♦ Eligible Soldiers may extend in theater within 12 months of their estimated time in service or may re-enlist immediately if they are stop-lossed and past their ETS date.
- ♦ Soldiers must have 16 years or less total service at their ETS date.
- ♦ Being military occupational specialty-qualified in theater is not a requirement to qualify.

Soldiers may not be barred or flagged.

Active Guard/Reserve and military technicians are approved for bonuses while in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan.

There are two main bonuses available. The first-year, three-year option totals \$7,500, and the six-year option is \$15,000. These are paid in one lump sum the day after the Soldier's current contract expires. These totals are tax exempt.

National Guard Soldiers who re-enlist or extend for six years are also eligible for the Student Loan Repayment Program. Only traditional National Guard Soldiers are eligible and must have served the last three consecutive years in an active drilling status. Loans must be established before the contract has been signed and the amount will

not exceed \$20,000.

All traditional National Guard Soldiers are also eligible for the Federal Tuition Assistance Program. This program provides 100 percent tuition assistance with an annual cap of \$4,500 per year.

To qualify for more money added to your Montgomery GI Bill, Soldiers must be MOS-qualified, served the last three consecutive years in the National Guard and requires a six-year contract. This kicker is only available for E-5 and below with less than 14 years of service.

For more information on bonuses and extensions in the National Guard call either Camp Arifjan at 430-7506 or 937-7659 Camp Buehring 828-1723 or 986-9802.

# Navistar TMC provides care at border

## Spc. Robert Adams

Assistant Editor

If you are feeling ill, have injured yourself, stressed or just want help ceasing a smoking habit, the Camp Navistar Troop Medical Clinic is able to provide the needed care.

A new set of Navy corpsmen took over operations at the Navistar TMC Oct. 31 and has already made a major impact for Soldiers, Coalition Forces, civilians and third-country nationals that have needed care.

Because the TMC is the closest medical facility to the border, its medical personnel are the first to see patients. They can perform minor surgical procedures for injuries caused by small-arms fire and improvised explosive devices.

If there are serious injuries that require advanced medical care, the Army medics attached to the TMC will call in a medical evacuation request and have the casualties picked up at Navistar.

The TMC is capable of performing initial trauma treatment and can also take care of threats to life, limb or eyes, said Navy Lt. Anne Lopez, Navistar TMC physician's assistant.

"But the TMC is really standing by, ready to assist in place," she said.

Navistar is also the staging area of more than 10,000 trucks a week heading into and out of Kuwait, so civilian and TCN truck drivers are treated on a regular basis.

"It's a whole class of patients that you wouldn't expect to see in a normal field environment," Lopez said.

Recently an up-armored British vehicle was involved in an accident. When the accident occurred, the quick reaction force informed the TMC of each troop's medical situation. A few were flown down to larger hospitals and some were treated for minor injuries at the TMC.

"The corpsmen and medics feel a little more involved in the whole process because we are right on the border," Lopez said.

The PA is on call 24 hours a day, but whenever something bad happens, she and her eight corpsmen and four medics are all ready to provide assistance. Two of the corpsmen are surgical technicians but all of them can perform minor procedures.

Not only does the TMC care for the sick or wounded, but the staff care for service-members' health and have set up an active tobacco cessation class that has helped many people on camp quit using tobacco products.

The medical personnel are constantly going through training like the sick-call course, which gives them permission to see, assess and treat patients.

"We will also have all the corpsmen take the Army Combat Life Saver Course, the Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support courses," Lopez said. "We are working with the Army for the first time and by attending their courses we know what to expect from them."

The four 343rd Ground Ambulance Company medics are attached to the TMC primarily for medical evacuation procedures but while they have been there, they have been able to learn the job of the corpsman.

"They are all teaching us the medical side



Spc. Robert Adams

**Navy Lt. Anne Lopez, Navistar TMC physician's assistant, checks a Soldier's heart-beat during a routine sick-call visit.**

of the house that we don't learn in our trauma-related training," said Spc. Edward Buhse, 343rd Ground Ambulance Co. medic. "We get hands-on time with patients, performing patient screenings and from there figure out what is wrong with them and then inform the PA."

The group is always going through mock drills in preparation for any situation.

"The more we can learn about the procedures ... the more proficient and efficient we become," said Navy Chief Petty Officer Dawn Calhoun, hospital corpsman.

"We all take medicine seriously."

## 1st Med. Bde. takes on lifesaving missions

### Spc. Janine Coogler

CFLCC PAO/11th PAD

Keeping Soldiers healthy to complete their missions is a huge task. The job must be done and done right, because the health of servicemembers is vital.

After a year maintaining lifesaving missions throughout theater, the 62nd Medical Brigade is headed home.

"With the help of the Navy, who run the hospitals, we have been able to successfully complete our mission and return with all our Soldiers," said Col.

Thomas Bailey, 62nd Medical Bde. commander.

Throughout the year the 62nd Med. Bde. treated more than 120,000 outpatients and conducted 1,200 ground and air medical evacuations, 11,000 veterinarian missions and 3,600 preventive medicine missions.

The continued mission to provide medical attention for Soldiers in theater will be fulfilled by the 1st Medical Brigade.

Col. Jim Rice, 1st Med. Bde. commander, said the unit's diverse mission involves clinical, logistical, evacuation, combat

stress, and medical functional area missions.

With the success of the 62nd Med. Bde., the 1st Med. Bde. has large shoes to fill, but Rice said the medical team would be able to maintain and execute missions.

"We stand ready to continue the medical support that has been the hallmark of Army and Navy medicine for over 200 years."

Joining the Sailors of the Navy hospital, the Soldiers of the Ground Ambulance Company, the veterinarians and the logisticians in Qatar, the medical team will execute timely, professional

evacuation and treatment of the sick and injured servicemembers, said Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Stuart, 1st Med. Bde. command sergeant major. In addition, the brigade will provide logistics support across theater to ensure forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa are supplied with the correct material in a timely manner.

Rice added, "The lifesaving mission is vitally important ... not only for the sick and injured individual, but for their units and for their loved ones back home. We owe it to them to give all, and we have to succeed."



# Community

happenings for Nov. 30 through Dec. 7

## Arifjan

### Wednesday

Tree trimming, 7 p.m., Zone 6 Community Center  
Flag football league, through Dec. 24, Zone 1 soccer field  
Tae Bo class, 4:30 p.m., Zone 1 tennis courts  
Cardio kickboxing, 5 a.m., 1 p.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Step and abs, 8 a.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Boxing class, 7 p.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Country Music Night, 7 p.m., Zone 6 stage

### Thursday

Darts tournament, 7 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center  
Ballroom dancing, 8 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center  
Tai Chi, 4 p.m., 8 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
The Ride, 6 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
Country Music Night, 7 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center

### Friday

Boxing class, 8 p.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Salsa Night, 7 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center

### Saturday

Army vs. Navy game, 9 p.m., Zones 1 and 6 Community Centers  
Cardio kickboxing, 5 a.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Abs, 8 a.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Tai Chi advanced, 4 p.m., 8 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
The Ride, 6 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
Boxing class, 7 p.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Salsa Night, 7 p.m., Zone 1 food court  
Country Music Night, 7 p.m., Zone 6 stage

### Sunday

Salsa Night, 7 p.m., Zone 6 stage  
Step and abs, 5 a.m., 1 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
Abs, 8 a.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center

### Monday

Karaoke Night, 7 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center  
Salsa lessons, beginner, 6 p.m., intermediate, 7 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center room 102  
Tae Bo class, 4:30 p.m., Zone 1 tennis courts  
Step and abs, 5 a.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
AbSolution, 8 a.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Cardio kickboxing, 1 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
**Tuesday**  
Bingo Night, 7 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center  
Ballroom dancing, 8 p.m., Zone 1

Community Center  
Cardio kickboxing, 5 a.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
Step and abs, 8 a.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
AbSolution, 1 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
Tai Chi, 4 p.m., 8 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
The Ride, 6 p.m., Zone 1 Fitness Center  
**Wednesday**  
Cardio kickboxing, 5 a.m., 1 p.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Boxing class, 7 p.m., Zone 6 Fitness Center  
Tae Bo class, 4:30 p.m., Zone 1 tennis courts  
Country Music Night, 7 p.m., Zone 6 stage

**For more information call  
430-1205/1302**

## Buehring

### Thursday

Tae-Kwon-Do Class, 7 p.m., MWR Tent 1

### Friday

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Tent 1

### Saturday

Spa Day, 10 a.m., Tent 1  
Tae-Kwon-Do Class, 7 p.m., gym

### Sunday

Spa Day, 10 a.m., Tent 1  
Copasetic, USO show, 7 p.m., MWR stage

### Tuesday

Tae-Kwon-Do Class, 7 p.m., MWR Tent 1

**For more information call  
828-1340**

## Kuwait Naval Base

### Wednesday

Dominoes, 7 p.m., Aerobics room

### Friday

Bingo, 7 p.m., Fitness Center bench area

### Saturday

Darts, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday

Spades, 7 p.m.

**For more information call  
839-1063**

## Navistar

### Wednesday

Cribbage tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent  
Pingpong tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent

### Thursday

Cribbage tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent  
Pingpong tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent

### Friday

Cribbage tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent  
Pingpong tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent

### Monday

Foosball tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent

Spades tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent

### Tuesday

Foosball tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent  
Spades tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent

### Wednesday

Foosball tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent  
Spades tournament, 8 a.m., MWR tent

**For more information call  
844-1137**

## Spearhead/SPOD

**For information call 825-1302**

## Victory

### Thursday

Aerobics, 5 a.m., MWR  
Weight-loss challenge, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m., MWR gym

Bazaar, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., MFT

### Friday

Frisbee golf tournament, 3 p.m., MWR fields  
Movie night, Elizabethtown, 6 p.m., MWR dayroom

Bazaar, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., MFT

### Saturday

Aerobics, 5 a.m., MWR  
Dodgeball, 6 p.m., MWR courts

### Sunday

Movie night, Walk the Line, 6 p.m., MWR dayroom

### Monday

Spa Day, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., MWR dayroom  
Kuwait culture class, 10 a.m., noon, TBD  
Rolling thunder kickball tournament, 3 p.m., MWR fields

Copasetic, USO show, 7 p.m., stage

### Tuesday

Aerobics, 5 a.m., MWR  
Spa Day, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., MWR dayroom  
Desert Bingo Night, 6 p.m., MFT

### Wednesday

Magic Rock, all day  
Spa Day, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., MWR dayroom

**For more information call  
823-1033**

## Virginia

**For information call 832-1045**

**Does your unit have an upcoming event? Do you have an interesting story to tell? Send event and activity listings to the *Desert Voice* editor at the e-mail address listed on page 2.**



# acu

## ARMY COMBAT UNIFORM

The trousers have a four-button front fly and an adjustable waist drawstring.

The ACU coat is a single-breasted design with long sleeves and a stand-up collar.

Do not dry clean, starch or commercially hot press.

Before washing, remove all patches from the coat, and all items from the pockets. Close all hook-and-loop fasteners to prevent snagging.

Machine wash in cold water, using permanent press cycle, or hand wash using mild detergent. Do not wring or twist. Hang dry or machine dry on low to medium setting.

